Soil Treatability Study

Energy Technology Engineering Center • U.S. Department of Energy

Bioremediation Study

Dr. Yarrow Nelson

Mackenzie Billings, Kenny Croyle and Adam Caughey

California Polytechnic State University

College of Engineering

CAL POLY

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Bioremediation Study Overview

- Phase 1: Analysis of microbial communities in the field
  - Identify potential chemical-degrading microorganisms in Area IV soils
    - Terminal Restriction Fragment Analysis (TRFLP)
    - Culturing of microorganisms from Area IV soils & sequencing
    - Metagenomics for complete microbial characterization
- Phase 2: Laboratory microcosms using soil from Area IV
  - Incubate in the laboratory under controlled conditions
  - Measure biodegradation rates under natural attenuation conditions
  - Estimate efficacy of biostimulation and bioaugmentation

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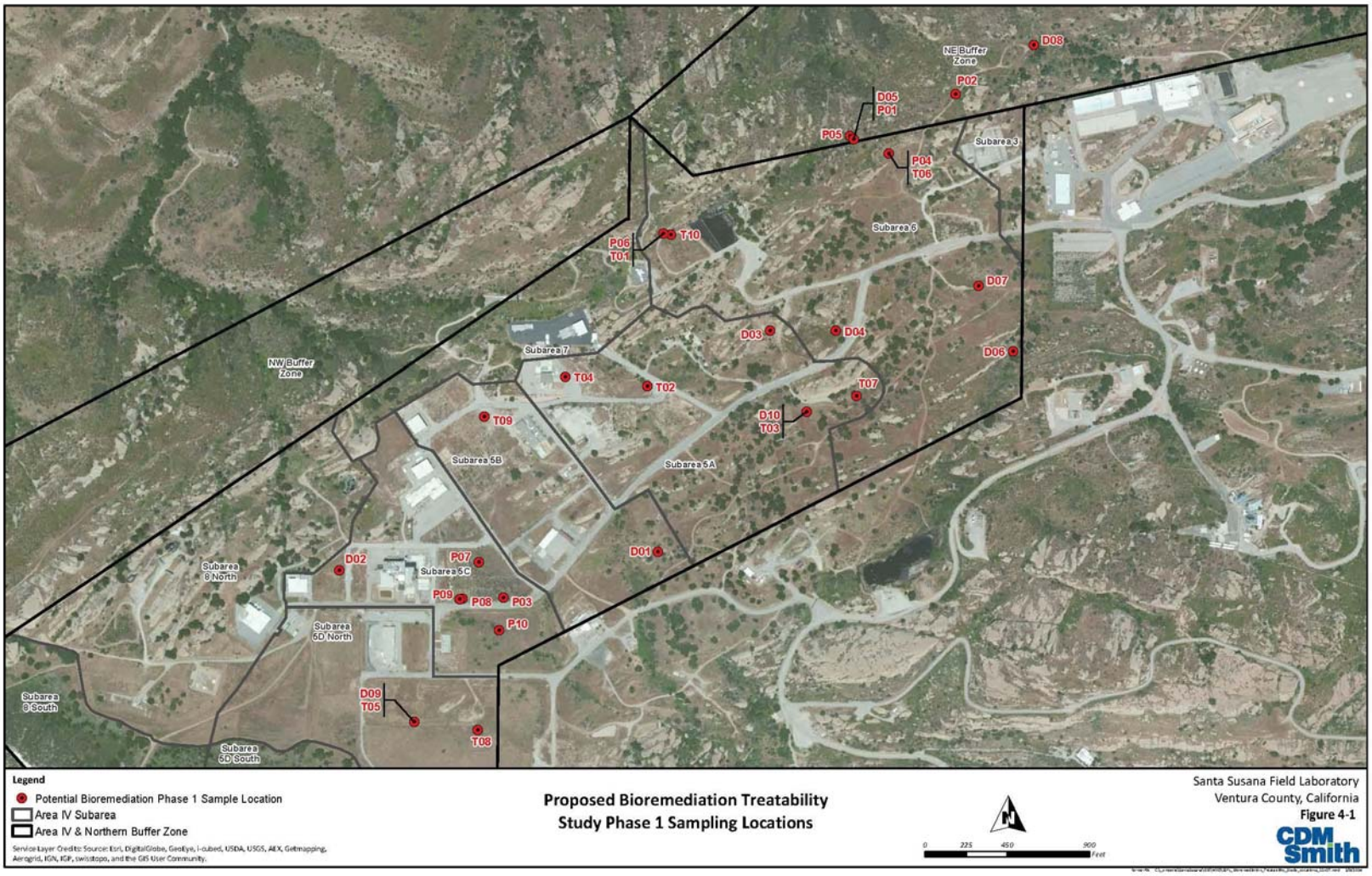
Bioremediation Study: Phase 1 Status

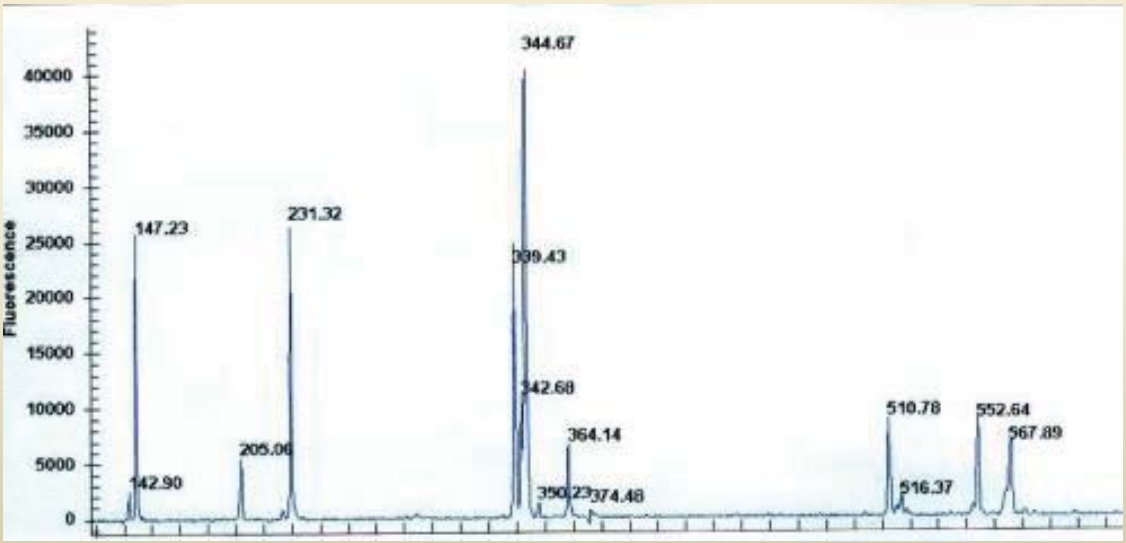
- Study Plan in review
- Soil sampling locations selected
- Model microorganisms cultivated
- Arrangements made for metagenomic assays

Soil Sampling Locations for Phase 1 Field Study



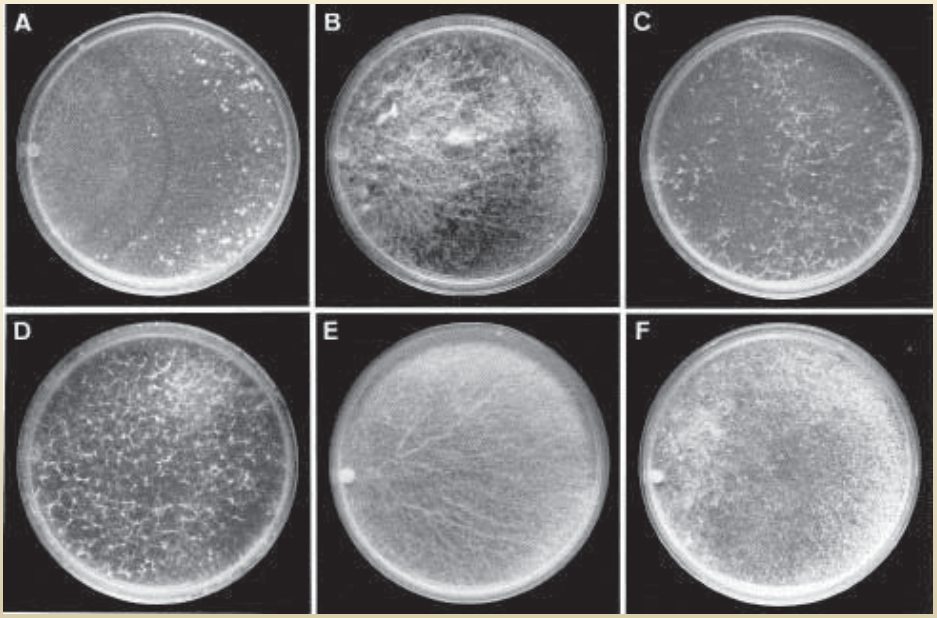
Identification of soil microorganisms: Terminal Restriction Fragment (TRFLP) Analysis

- Provides the relative abundance of specific genetic sequences
- These genetic sequences can be correlated to microbial degraders using data from other analyses
- Gives a good indication of the microbial population diversity in a sample



Isolating pure-cultures of soil bacteria and fungi from Area IV soils

- Grow on model compounds with no other carbon source
- Sequence 16S DNA
- Compare to known degraders of Area IV chemicals



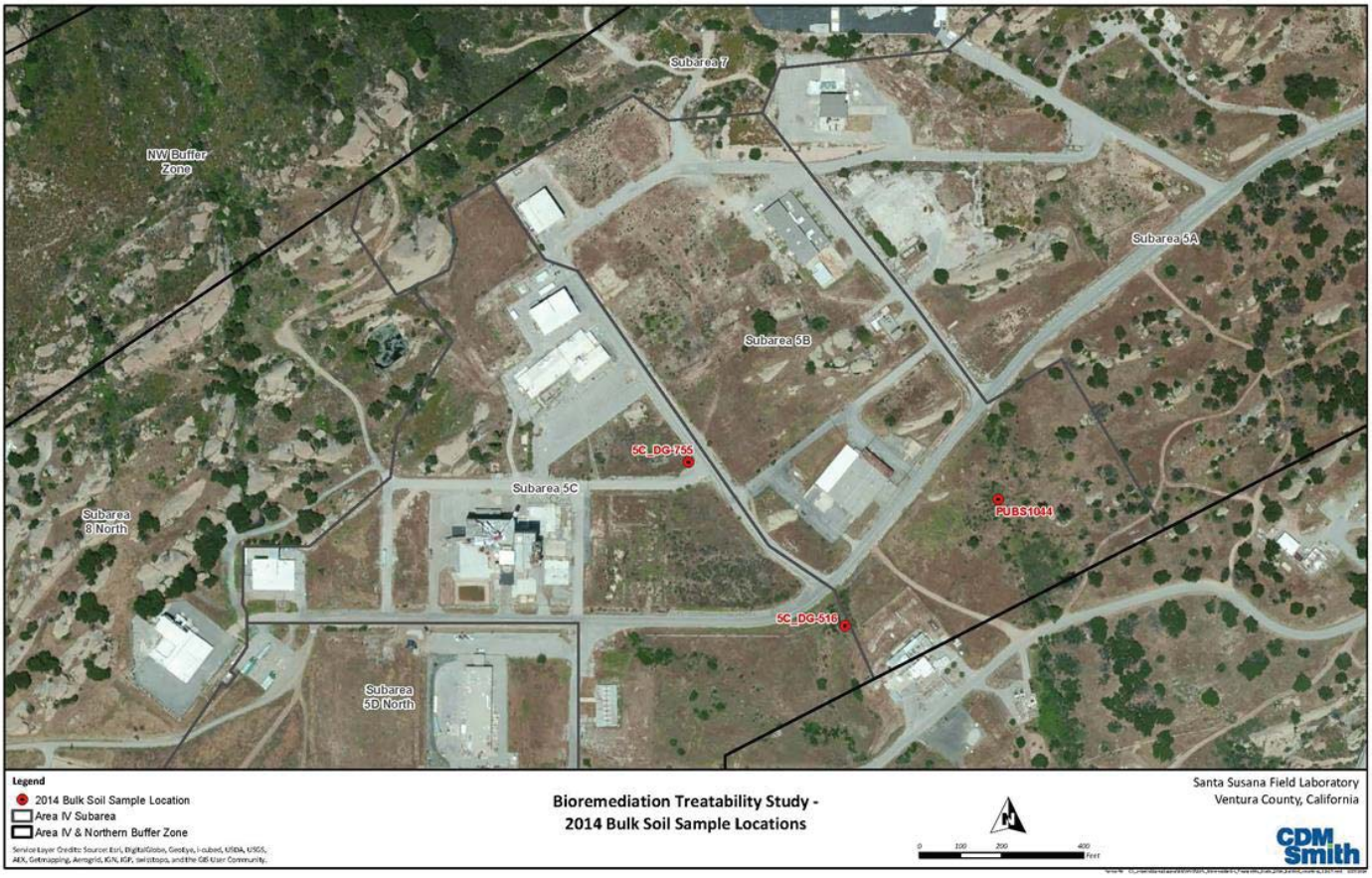
e.g. *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*, White-Rot Fungi – PCB degrader

Metagenomics

- Use of modern genomics techniques to characterize microbial communities directly in natural environments, without laboratory cultivation of individual species
- Provides genus and species level identification
- Provides relative populations of different classes of microorganisms
- Available through Sandia National Laboratory (at Livermore)

Bioremediation Study: Phase 2 Status

- Soil collected and processed for use in microcosms



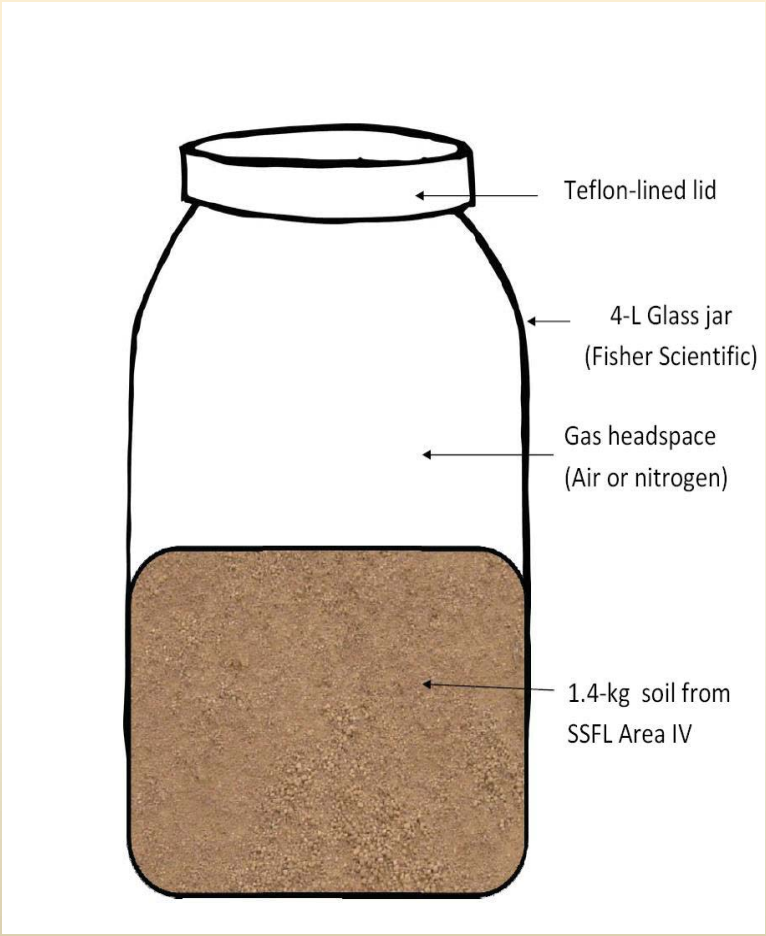
Bioremediation Study: Deep Soil Collection

Bioremediation Study: Soil Collection

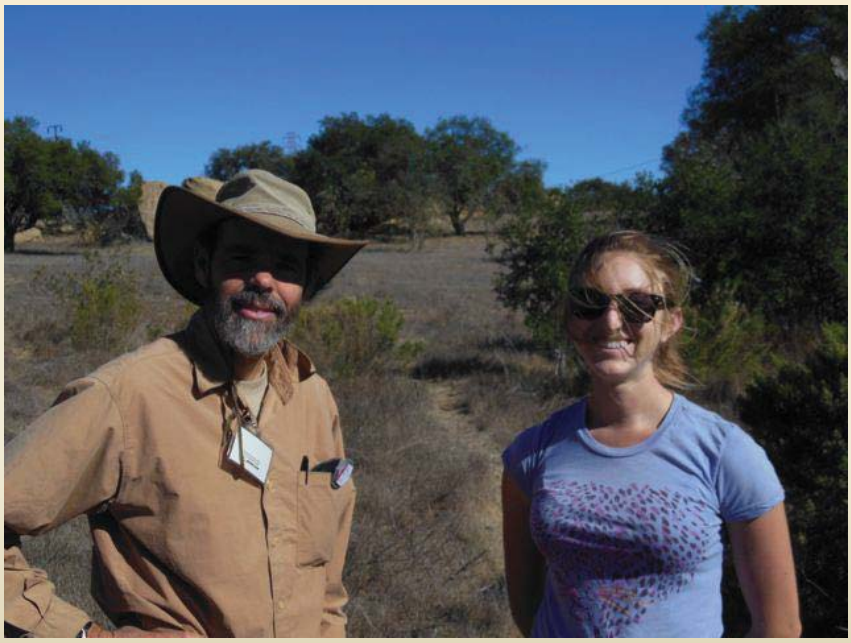
Soil transported to Cal Poly
in labeled Teflon-lined 5-gal buckets

Bioremediation Study: Microcosm set up

- Incubate in the dark at 14^{o}C to simulate soil conditions at SSFL
- Measure chemical concentrations in soil after 0, 4 and 9 months



Bioremediation Study: Microcosm Amendments

	Microcosm Type
Un-amended	Sterilized
	Unsterilized
Amended	Fertilizer
	Rice hulls
	Rice hulls + fertilizer + *P. chrysosporium* fungi
	Soya lecithin
	Combination

Questions?